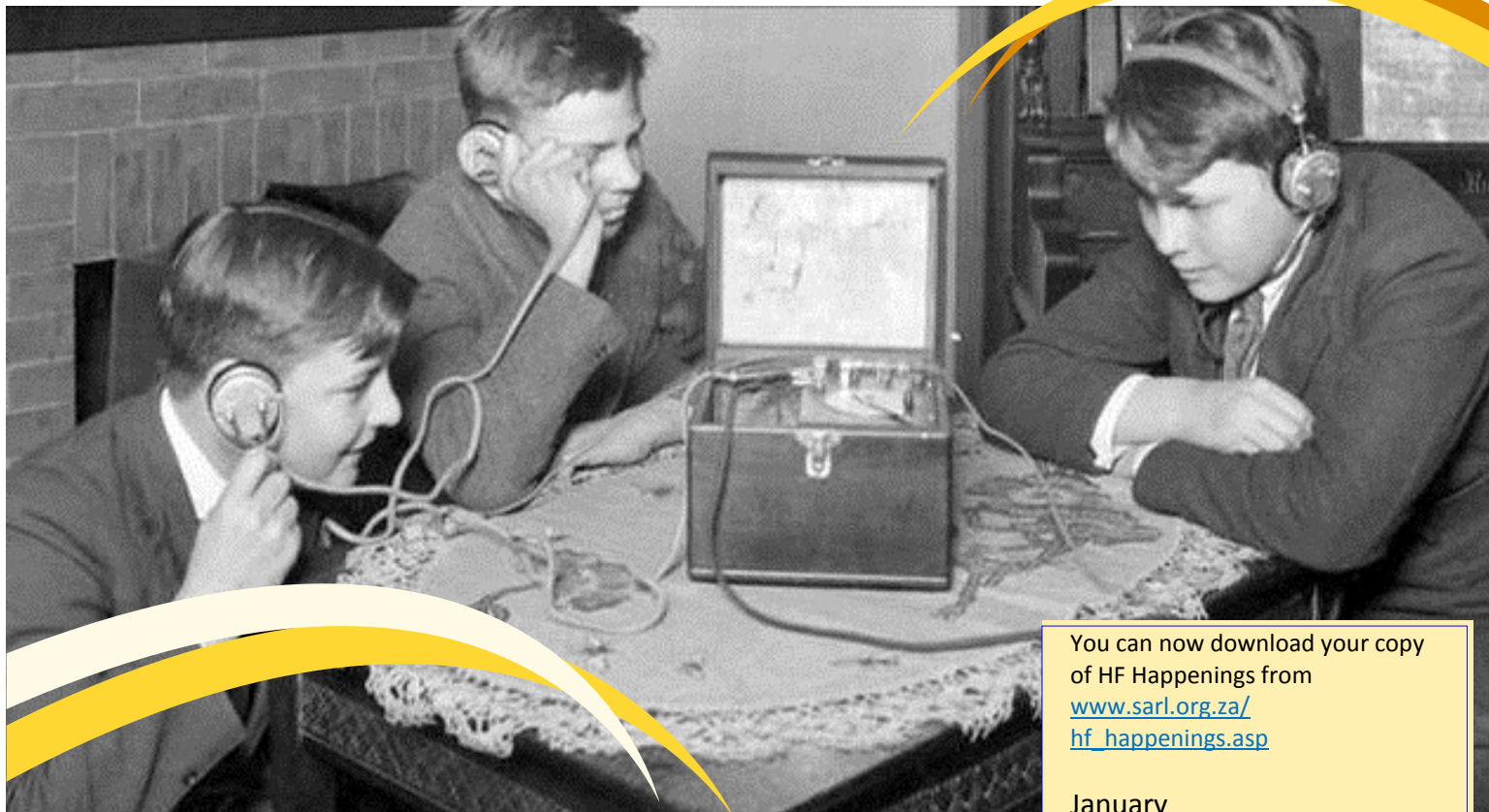


HF Happenings 737

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925

Volume 15, Issue 07, the week of 16 January 2017



Bouvet, 3Y0/B

Reports of Dom, 3Z9DX, activating Bouvet Island continue to surface, but early this past week it was reported that he returned the donated money to donors via PayPal, saying: "I had to cancel project due missing operators willing to join the trip".

Also, Dom posted on eHam.net on 10 January [edited]: "3Y0 project didn't die and is still valid. I need 3 more people (6 people team) ready and willing to go for up to 7 weeks. Who not ask million questions, who is just ready to go. My project no need helicopter, no need sherpas, no need cook, no need hostess, drink bars and a heater in the toilet. I went to Bouvet in 2001 with no radio and I know what I'm dealing with! My trip budget is 1/10 of 3Y0Z budget and will be split by 6 operators. Trip will be made by Southern Oceans expedition boat.... I'm looking for 3 operators willing to join that trip. We have 2 weeks before boat departs from a the Cape Town." To follow the discussion on eHam.net, go to <http://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php/topic,112520.15.html>

Another thing to watch is <http://k38dom0.wixsite.com/rebeldxgroup>. On this Web page, current operators listed (Rebel DX Group) for this operation are Dom, 3Z9DX, and Les, SP3DOI. It also states, "We are looking for 3 more operators to join the trip for up to 7 weeks," and the call sign is 3Y0I (not 3Y0G as first announced) will be used. The 3Y0I call sign has been recently added to the QRZ.com database. DX-World reports, "It has been granted to Dom, 3Z9DX, who informs he also has landing permission."

Type approval in South Africa

The SARL submitted further documentation about Type Approval to ICASA in response to the discussions at the public hearing which took place last month.

The SARL has maintained its position that equipment built by an amateur in pursuit of his or her hobby should be exempted from any type approval requirements. As far as commercial equipment is concerned, the SARL proposed that equipment that conforms to

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You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from
www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

January

- 1 - New Year's Day; start of 2017 CQ Marathon
- 2 - Public Holiday
- 11 - All schools open (*thank goodness*)
- 14 - Cosmic Collisions, Bloemfontein
- 20 to 22 - **PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest**
- 21 - Passport to the Universe, Bloemfontein; **RAE Registration opens**
- 25 - **Closing date February Radio ZS articles**
- 26 to 29 - Up the Creek, Swellendam
- 28 - **Summer QRP Sprint**; Chinese New Year; City of Stars, Bloemfontein
- 28 and 29 - Delheim Harvest Festival
- 28 Jan to 12 Feb - Darling Music Experience
- 29 - Sani Pass. Wild Flower Walk
- 31 - Closing date for motions for the 2017 AGM and for nominations to serve on the League Council.

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the ETSI standards for equipment used by radio amateurs and already approved by the EU or the FCC be exempted from any further type approval in South Africa.

African DX

Senegal, 6W and Guinea-Bissau, J5. Peter, HA3AUI is going to put Senegal and Guinea-Bissau on the air between 20 January and 5 March. He will be active as 6W2SC and J5UAP. Activity mainly on 20 to 10 m (CW), other bands and modes via skeds. There may be options for IOTA or WWFF activation in Senegal. QSL via HA3AUI, direct and LoTW. Visit <http://cqafrica.net/> for all the details.



Côte d'Ivoire, TU. Operators Bertrand, DF3FS, Norbert, DJ7JC, Heye, DJ9RR, and Emil, DL8JJ will be active as TU5MH from the Ivory Coast or Côte d'Ivoire between 22 January and 2 February. Activity will be on 80 to 10 metres. Bertrand will operate CW and SSB, Norbert, Emil and Heye will operate CW and RTTY. QSL via DJ5BWD, direct, by the Bureau or ClubLog's OQRS. Logs will be uploaded into LoTW soon after DXpedition. For more details and updates, see <http://www.TU5MH.com>



Rwanda, 9X. Harald, DF2WO, will be active as 9X2AW (not 9XB954 as previously announced) from Kigali between 3 February and 11 March. Activity will be on various HF bands using mainly digital modes (PSK31, JT65 and RTTY) and CW. QSL via M00XO's OQRS. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

Côte d'Ivoire, TU. Members of the Radio Club of Provins (F6KOP) is organizing a DXpedition to Ivory Coast to take place between 9 and 19 March. The TU call sign is pending. Activity will be on various HF bands and 6 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. The international team consists of experienced operators. Some of them were part of various important DXpeditions during the past years, like FT5TA, FT5JA, J5C, 3G0ZC, 7P8C and so on.

Operators mentioned are Frank, F4AJQ (Team Leader), Patrick, F2DX, Jean-Luc, F1ULQ, (aka AK8DX), Jimmy, F4DLM, (aka AF7JJ), Herman, ON4QX, (aka KM6CCP), John, OE5TGL (aka F5VHQ, EI4VGL, KW4OA), Philippe, F4DSE, Raymond, F5MFV, Kurt, ON8KW, Damien, F4AZF and Frank, F5TVG. The pilot for English speaking people is Col, MM0NDX. QSL via F1ULQ, direct (sorry no IRC), the French REF Bureau (only this one), LoTW and ClubLog's OQRS. For more information, see their DXpedition Web page at <https://tu2017dx.wordpress.com>

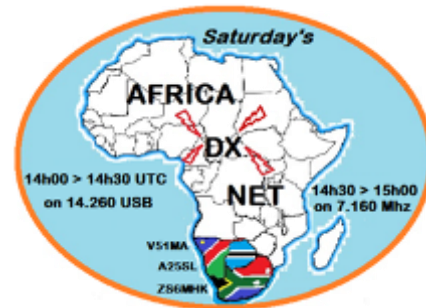
Added Note: The team is searching for two more CW operators to complete their CW crew. If you are interested or if you know of some friends interested, please contact Frank Pouchin, F4AJQ, Team Leader at f4ajq@wanadoo.fr without any delay to get the DXpedition conditions.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Ascension Island, ZD8. Steve, WB4GHY, is currently on Ascension Island on a work detail. Look for him to possibly be active on various days as ZD8SC until 22 January.



February

5 - **AWA CW Activity**

10 to 12 - Love Rosendal Festival

11 and 12 - **SARL National Field Day**; Midmar Mile; Magoebaskloof Berry festival

14 - Valentine's Day

18 - **SARL Youth Sprint; AMSAT SA SDR Workshop at the NARC**

22 - **Closing date articles for March Radio ZS**

24 and 25 - Clarens Craft Beer Festival

25 - **West Rand ARC Flea Market**

26 - **SARL Digital Contest**

24 to 26 - Stellenbosch Wine Festival

27 - National Milk Tart Day

Dutch regulator removes broadcaster's antenna

It is reported the Dutch Radiocommunications Agency dismantled the antenna of a legally operating broadcast station. It appears they thought Vechtdal NL in Ommen on 105,6 MHz was a pirate but the station, an associate of Vechtdal FM, was correctly licensed. The Agency says that something went wrong with the checking of licences.

The antenna was on the watch-tower of the State Forestry Besthmenerberg Ommen near Nieuwleusen. It is unclear if the Radiocommunications Agency will pay compensation for the damage.

Radio NL article <http://radio.nl/812498/legaal-radiostation-vechtdal-nl-door-at-uit-de-lucht-gehaald>

Australian tests for a Mars mission

Steady progress is being made towards Central Australia being used in April by a radio amateur for testing a wide area radio network on the planet Mars.

Robert Brand, VK2URB, of Thunderstruck Aerospace, reports that the

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Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters on SSB only using an IC-7000 to a directional antenna. QSL via WB4GHY.

Canary Islands, EA8. Heidi/DK1MA keeps operating holiday-style until 28 January as EA8/DK1MA from Lanzarote AF-004. QSL via home call, direct or via the bureau.

Amateur radio antennas under threat

News 12 reports on the controversy about a plan to take down ham radio towers from an Islandia hotel that is set to become Long Island's first casino.

They say: On top of the Island Marriott, the site where the controversial casino will be built, sits an antenna and amateur radio repeater used in emergency situations to help with communication. It has been there for nearly 30 years.

The property's new owner, Delaware North, wants to take down the repeater site due to what it calls safety and security concerns. The news is sparking outrage among amateur radio operators. Watch the News 12 report at <http://longisland.news12.com/news/property-owner-wants-to-remove-ham-radio-towers-from-atop-islandia-hotel-1.12958511>

Further preparations for WRC-19

A meeting has taken place in the past week in CEPT, which included agenda items considering matters of interest to the Amateur Radio Services at WRC19.

At committee PTD in Helsinki, IARU experts were involved in discussions on WRC Agenda Item 1.1, which proposes an allocation in Region 1 in the 50 - 54 MHz band, to create a global band at these frequencies. For CEPT, the coordinator for this Agenda item is Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T.

The discussions made progress on matters associated with the spectrum needs for the amateur service and sharing with other services but there remains much still to do and IARU will continue to work on these studies with administrations and others to establish the optimum future sharing scenarios

The CEPT summary of the outcome of these discussions states, "PTD updated the draft CEPT Brief. In particular, a preliminary CEPT position was agreed on agenda item 1.1, which would support a new allocation in the frequency range 50-54 MHz to the amateur service in Region 1 only if the spectrum needs for the amateur services are justified and studies show that incumbent services, including their future deployment and services in adjacent spectrum are protected.

PTD developed a working document summarizing the sharing studies currently available for this agenda item. It covers the compatibility between the amateur service in the band 50-54 MHz and incumbent services (land mobile, radiolocation and broadcasting)."

Another item discussed at PTD was Wireless Power Transfer, in preparation for WRC19 Agenda Item 9.1.6. An IARU paper which argued that greater clarity is needed in terminology and scope of studies to be undertaken on high power wireless transfer technologies was broadly welcomed and is expected to result in a CEPT contribution to ITU WP1B, the committee charged with developing the wireless power transfer spectrum allocation and related issues.

IARU will continue to actively participate in discussions in its Regional Telecommunications Organisations (CEPT, ATU, ASMG and RCC) as well as the all-important forum of ITU.

International Amateur Radio Union - Region 1 <http://www.iau-r1.org/>

project on a salt lake calls for 10 separate penetrators to be ejected about 6 km from the surface. On penetrating the surface, a ring about 8 km wide will be formed as part of a radio system. A metre diameter solar panel providing energy is expected to survive for at least six months on Mars, while the radio system relays weather and sub-surface information. It is part of the project to develop the Mars Nano-Lander and Methane detection system called MEDIAN, set to land in 2025.

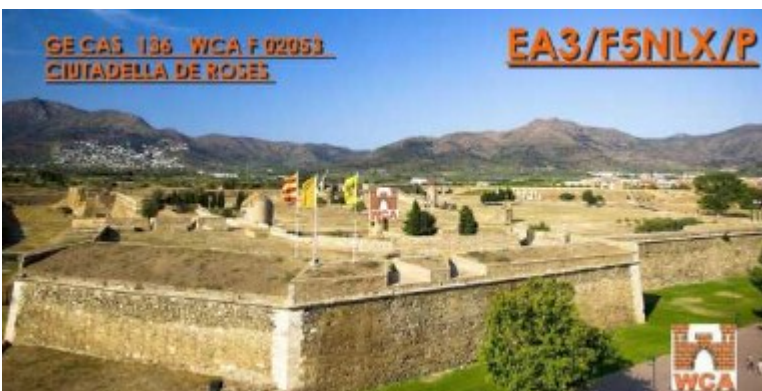
The role of Amateur Radio is providing essential communications for the test and for the event which is gaining worldwide attention. *Jim Linton VK3PC*

Several CubeSats with Amateur Radio Payloads Deployed from ISS

Several CubeSats carrying Amateur Radio payloads were placed into orbit on 16 January from the International Space Station (ISS). Six CubeSats delivered to the ISS in December were deployed from the Kibo airlock using the new JEM Small Satellite Orbital Deployer (J-SSOD). Information on J-SSOD can be found on the web at <http://iss.jaxa.jp/en/kiboexp/jssod/>

Satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads included ITF-2, Waseda-Sat-3, AOBA-Velox-3, and TuPOD (including Tancredo-1). University of Tsukuba designed and built ITF-2, with a downlink of 437.525 MHz. Waseda-Sat-3, a project of Waseda University, downlinks CW and FM telemetry on 437.29 MHz. AOBA-Velox-3 downlinks GMSK telemetry on 437.225 MHz. Tancredo-1, a Brazil middle school project, will transmit AFSK on 437.200 MHz.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has posted a video on the launches and related activities. Further information can be found on the JAXA website at <http://global.jaxa.jp/>



Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 16 to 23 January 2017

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22 January 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://qrptest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrptest.com/pigrun/>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 18 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 19 January 2017

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 18 January

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 20 January 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.perluma.com/>

[Phone Fray Contest Rules.pdf](#)

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 18 January and

03:00 - 04:00 UTC 19 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member:

Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 21 January 2017

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

NAQCC CW Sprint

01:30 - 03:30 UTC 19 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per

QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 January 2017

E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net

Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201701.html>

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 20 January

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22 January 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 20 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

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Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 21 January 2017

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 20 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22 January 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

LZ Open Contest

18:00 - 22:00 UTC 20 January

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op

Max power: QRP: 5 W

Exchange: 3-Digit serial no and 3-Digit serial no received from last QSO

Work stations: Once each 30 minutes

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 30 January 2017

E-mail logs to: LZ1GL@yahoo.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.lzopen.com/lz-open-contest/rules/rulesF.htm>

Hungarian DX Contest

12:00 UTC 21 January to 11:59 UTC 22 January

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - CW or SSB - low or high Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - mixed, CW or SSB - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Multi; SWL

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: HA: RS(T), 2-letter county/HA-DXC member no; non-HA: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 1 point per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 6 points per QSO with HA station

Multipliers: Hungarian counties, once per band; HA-DXC member numbers, once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 5 February 2017

E-mail logs to: hadx@mrasz.axelero.net

Upload log at: <http://www.ha-dx.com/HADX/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: http://www.ha-dx.com/HADX/html/rules_en.html

North American SSB QSO Party

18:00 UTC 21 January to 05:59 UTC 22 January

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP or low; Multi-Two - low

Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: NA: Name, state, DC, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state/DC (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC January 27, 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqlogssubmit/>

Mail logs to: Bill Lippert, ACOW, 2013 6th Avenue SE, Austin, MN 55912-4321, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

WAB 1.8 MHz Phone

19:00 - 23:00 UTC 21 January

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile or portable; Multi-Op - fixed, mobile or portable; Low Power; SWL - fixed, mobile or portable

Max power: non-Low: >10 watts; Low: 10 watts

Exchange: British Isles: RS, serial no and WAB square; Other: RS, serial no and country

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 11 February 2017

E-mail logs to: aebbbooks@ntlworld.com

Mail logs to: Tony Beardsley, G3XKT, 14 York Avenue, Sandi-acre, Nottingham NG10 5HB, United Kingdom

Find rules at: <http://wab.intermip.net/Contest%20Rules.php#OtherRules>

Feld Hell Sprint

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20:00 - 23:59 UTC 21 January (EU/AF) and 23:00 UTC 21 January to 02:59 UTC 22 January (ENA/ESA) and 02:00 - 05:59 UTC 22 January (WNA/AS/OC)

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 25 January 2017

Upload log at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/low-down-sprint>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 25 January

NAQCC CW Sprint, 01:30 - 03:30 UTC 25 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 25 January

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 January

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00

UTC 25 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 26 January

UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 25 January

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 27 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 27 January

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 27 January

CQ 160-Meter CW Contest, 22:00 UTC 27 January to 22:00 UTC 29 January

Montana QSO Party, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 28 January



REF CW Contest, 06:00 UTC 28 January to 18:00 UTC 29 January

BARTG RTTY Sprint, 12:00 UTC 28 January to 12:00 UTC 29 January

UBA DX SSB Contest, 13:00 UTC 28 January to 13:00 UTC 29 January

Winter Field Day, 19:00 UTC 28 January to 19:00 UTC 29 January



HF Happenings

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter